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NEWS *release*

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Whitehorse Correctional Centre Enters Design Phase

WHITEHORSE – In an effort to further its vision of building the best correctional system in Canada, the Yukon government has allocated \$5.592 million in the 2008-09 Budget for the design of a new Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

This initiative, subject to legislative approval, will help the government with its strategic plan to build a facility that will allow Yukon to move from a system that simply punishes to one that helps heal offenders and lower their chances of recidivism Justice Minister Marian C. Horne said today.

"This new facility will give us the opportunity to engage in programs and services that will help our clients to reintegrate into their communities," Horne said.

"We have worked with the Council of Yukon First Nations, the Kwanlin Dun First Nation, non-government organizations and Justice Department staff over the past year on planning for the new correctional centre."

"This facility represents the direction we received from Yukoners during our consultations on corrections," Horne added.

Replacement of the Whitehorse Correctional Centre is a priority in the

2008-04201/

Correctional Redevelopment Strategic Plan and was identified as an issue by Yukoners.

Construction of the new Whitehorse Correctional Centre is scheduled for completion by late 2011.

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